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" (b) The correspondence between this Government and the Government of India is treated as confidential and it will not be in the public interest to disclose it.

" (c) The attention of the hon'ble Member is invited to the answer already given in reply to his question No. 252.

" (d) Yes, Sir.

" (e) The South Indian Sugar Mills Association has raised certain points concerning the price to be paid to the factories for the power alcohol to be produced by them and these are being examined.

" (f) No, Sir.

" (g) The Government of India have permitted this factory to produce 2½ lakh gallons of power alcohol subject to the condition that no subsidy or other financial assistance should be claimed, if it is found later on that its cost of production is higher than that of the other factories.

" (h) Yes, Sir."

Flood relief in the Kurnool district.

* 91 Q.—Sri N. SANKARA REDDY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that, even according to Government information, more than twenty thousand houses were damaged in the Kurnool district;

(b) whether it is a fact that, as the amount granted by the Government for giving relief to the affected people was insufficient, the Collector has asked for more; and

(c) if so, what the Government have done in the matter?

The Hon. Sri B. GOPALA REDDI (on behalf of Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue):—" (a) Yes. According to the latest report from the Collector of Kurnool, the number of houses fully damaged is 32,985 and the number of houses partially damaged is 21,337.

" (b) & (c) The Government have already sanctioned a sum of Rs. 1,00,000 for the relief of the victims of the floods in the Kurnool district. The Collector asked for an additional allotment of Rs. 23,000 and it has been sanctioned."

Alleged blackmarketing of paddy procured from the ryots of Kalugodu.

* 92 Q.—Sri B. BHIMA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that about 1,200 bags of paddy of very good quality were procured from the ryots of Kalugodu in Rayadrug taluk of Bellary district during the harvest time at the commencement of the year 1949;

(b) how many of these bags reached the Bellary Central Co-operative Stores;

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(c) what became of the remaining bags;

(d) whether any representation was made to the Collector of the district about the disappearance and blackmarketing of a considerable portion of the paddy procured, and if so, what the substance thereof is; and

(e) whether any enquiry was made on the representation to the Collector, and if so, by whom and with what result?

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" (a) No. Three hundred and one bags of first sort paddy and 475 bags of second sort paddy making a total of 776 bags of paddy (of $2\frac{1}{2}$ maunds each) were procured during the year 1948–49 from the ryots of Kalugodu village in Rayadrug taluk, Bellary district.

" (b) All the 776 bags of procured paddy have reached the Bellary Central Co-operative Stores Branch at Rayadrug.

" (c) Does not arise.

" (d) Yes. A petition was received by the District Supply Officer, Bellary, on 28th May 1949. It was alleged in the petition that the procuring agent had disposed of nearly 250 bags in the blackmarket and had stored the balance of about 200 bags in his own house. It was also alleged that the agent had delivered to the Bellary Central Co-operative Stores mostly inferior variety of paddy whereas he had procured mostly superior variety of paddy.

" (e) Yes. Enquiries have been made by the District Supply Officer, the Collector and the Police. The matter is still under investigation and appropriate action will be taken at the close of the investigation. The procurement agency of the agent has however been cancelled."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" May I know when the complaint was preferred by the person concerned in regard to the disappearance and blackmarketing of a considerable portion of the paddy procured, through the Bellary Central Co-operative Stores? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" It is already in the answer, Sir. The petition was preferred on 28th May 1949."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Why has there been so much delay in investigating into the facts of this case and bringing the culprit to book? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" The correspondence has taken so much time, Sir."

Report regarding the working of the research institutions.

* 93 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether the Expert Committee appointed to review the working of research institutions have submitted its report and whether this Government will publish the same before taking action on their recommendations?